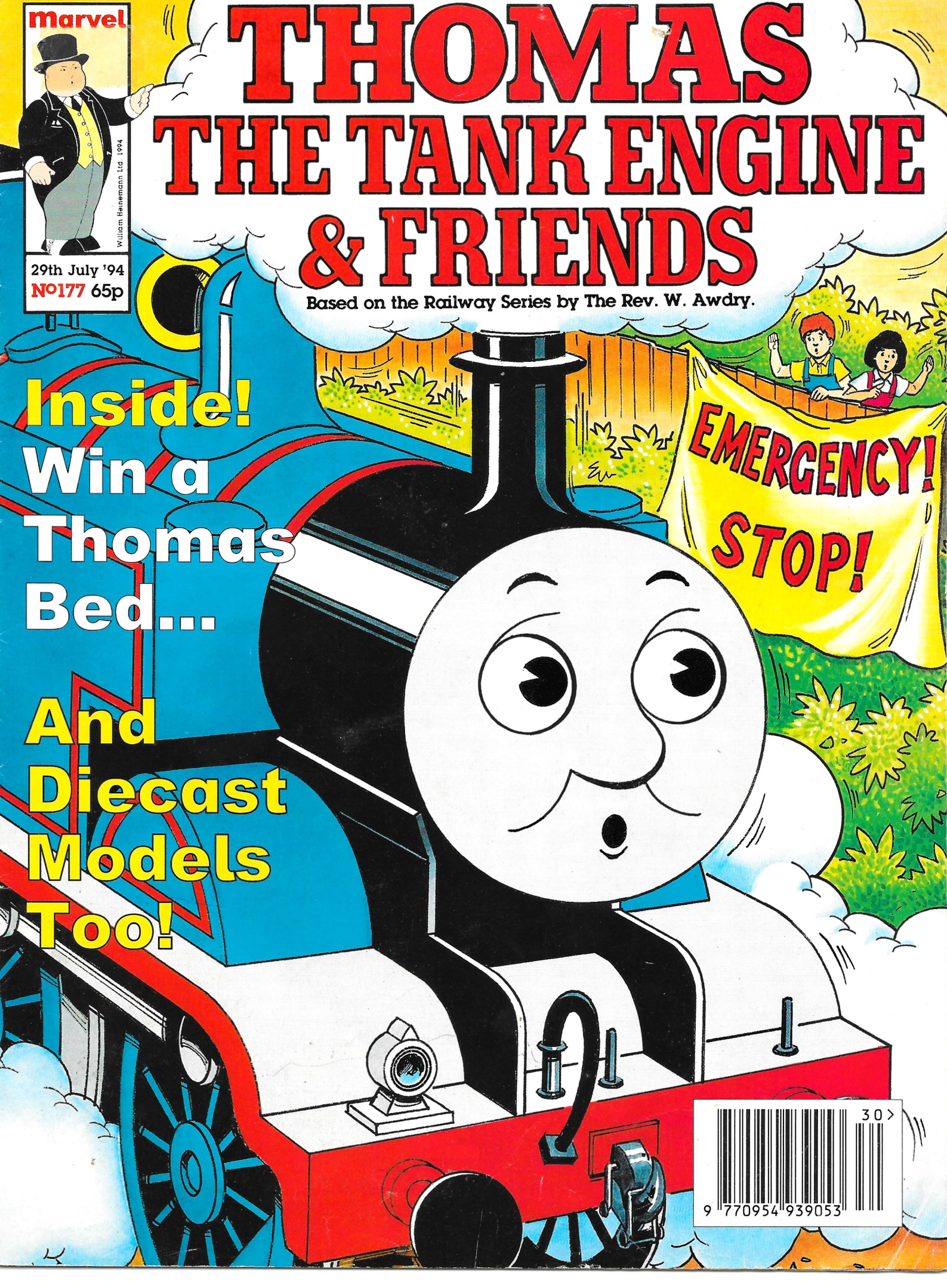

marvel
William Heinemann Ltd. 1994
29th July '94
No177 65p
THOMAS
THE TANK ENGINE
& FRIENDS
Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.
Inside!
Win a
Thomas
Bed...
And
Diecast
Models
Too!
EMERGENCY!
STOP!
30>
9 770954 939053

NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Thomas has many friends all around the Island of Sodor! But, in our first story, he is in danger! Will Thomas's friends be able to prevent a serious accident from happening? There are also many new tourist attractions on Thomas's railway and in our second story, there is a special event taking place! Read and discover who will take our 'Royal Visitors' to the show! *Peep! Peep!*

How to obtain Your Fat Controller's Card!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card** send one red, yellow and blue token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to **The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.**

Name .....

Address .....

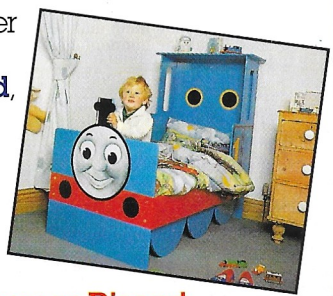
.....

Postcode ..... Age .....

THOMAS TOKEN

OUR COMPETITIONS!

On **page 7**, there is another special opportunity to win a **Thomas Bed** or **Bedhead**, courtesy of **Joshua Jones Ltd!**



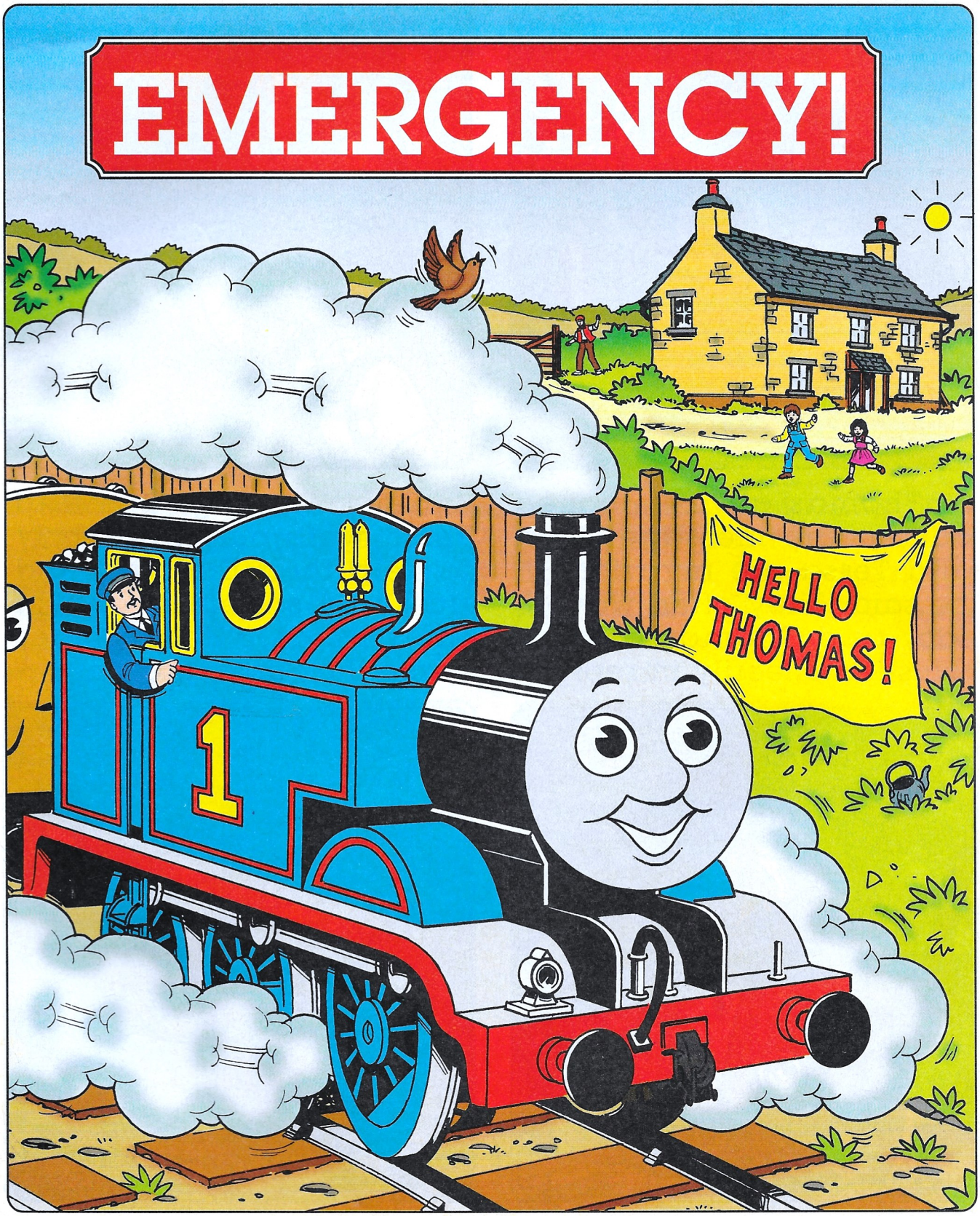
On **page 14**, you can colour a Thomas picture, then send it to us along with part 1 of our 2-Part **Thomas Diecast Competition**, courtesy of **ERTL(UK) Ltd.**

Don't miss our next issue! Our competition features personalised Bookends and Door plaques!

ABC AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS CONSUMER PRESS

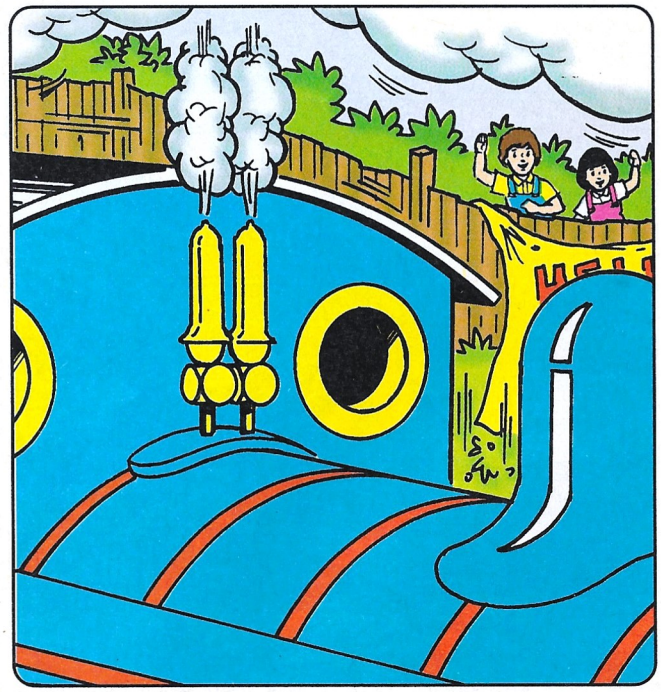
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE AND FRIENDS is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD.** Jim Galton, Chairman; Michael Hobson, Managing Director; Paul Neary, Editorial Director. Office of publication: 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2 3DX. All **THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS** material Copyright © William Heinemann Limited. All television and merchandising rights licensed by William Heinemann Limited to Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited, exclusively worldwide. All rights reserved. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this publication with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the UK. Distributed by IPC Marketforce, Independent Publishers Group, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE 9LS. Tel. 071 261 6061 ISSN 0954-9390.



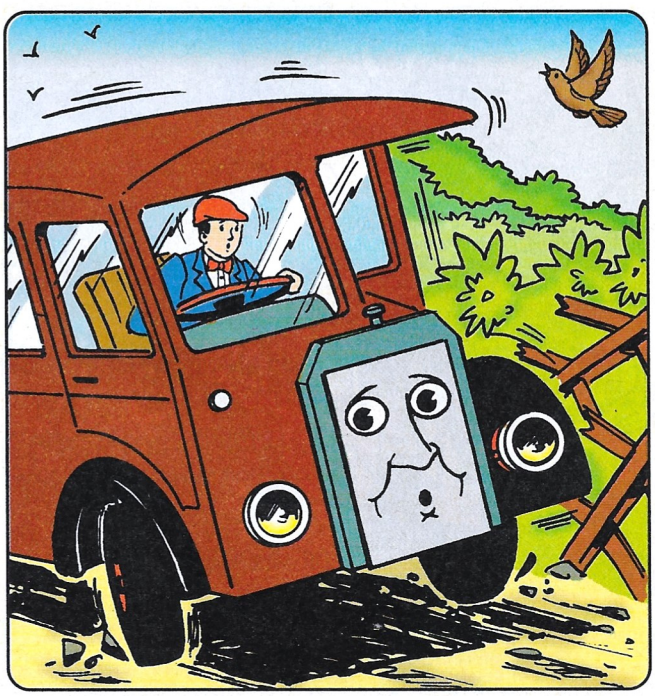
1. Whenever Thomas passed one particular farm along his branch line, he could be sure of a special greeting from the two children who lived there.

2. Ben and Tessa had hung an old sheet on the fence at the bottom of their garden, near the track. The words "Hello, Thomas!" were painted on it.

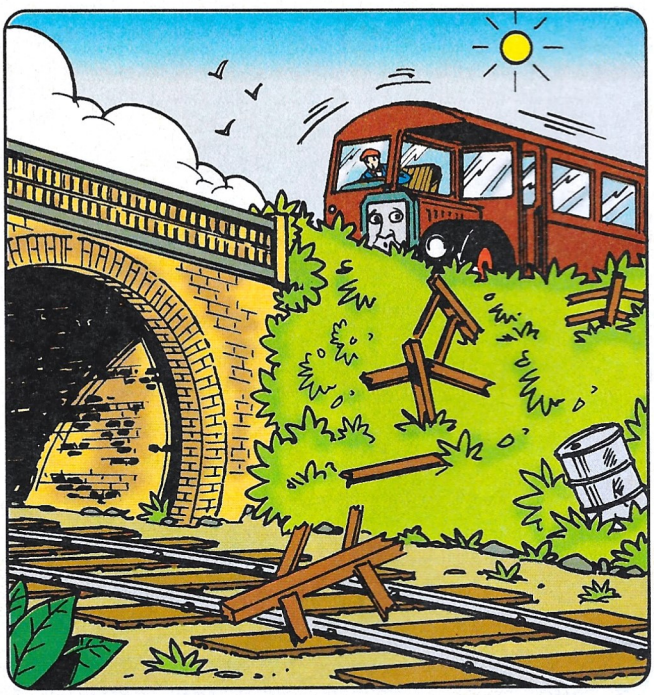


3. Thomas always looked out for the message. "Ben and Tessa are my friends!" he said. They often waved, too, and Thomas always whistled cheerily in reply.

4. One morning, Ben and Tessa were out extra early to help their Daddy round up some sheep in one of their fields. "Here comes Bertie the Bus!" said Ben.

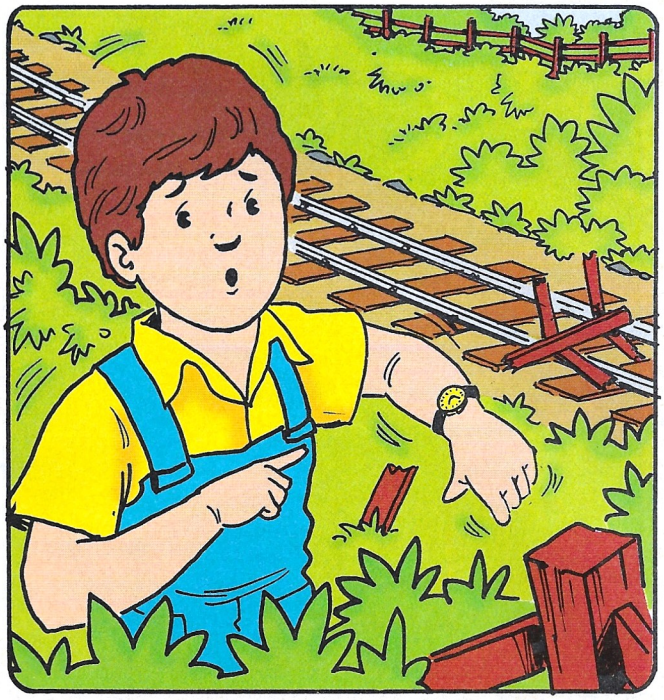


5. Bertie slowed down to drive carefully across a bridge over the railway line. But the road was muddy and Bertie skidded. "Ooer! Help!" he yelled.



6. Before he could stop, Bertie spun round and bumped against the side of the bridge. A section of fence post came loose and crashed on to the track below.

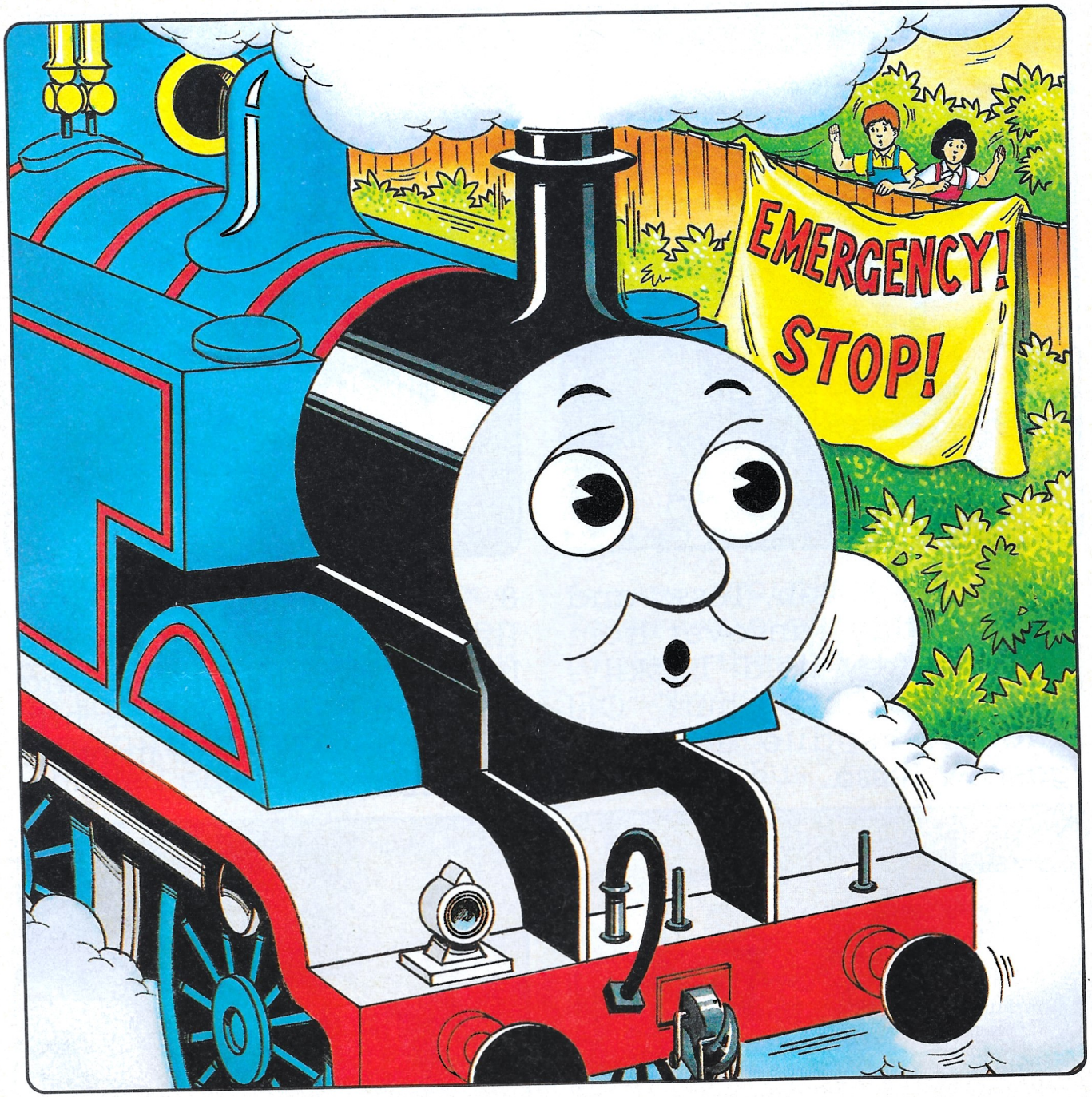
7. Horrified, Ben, Tessa and their Daddy ran over from their nearby field. Luckily, no one had been hurt. "Oh! Thomas is due shortly!" gasped Tessa.



8. "He always comes by with the post train right on the hour!" cried Ben, checking his watch. "If Thomas hits the fallen fence, he may be derailed!"

9. "We must warn him!" said their father. The farmer and children hurried home to telephone the nearest station. But Thomas had already passed through it.

10. "We're too late!" said Ben. Suddenly, Tessa had a clever idea. "Let's paint another message for Thomas on the back of the sheet," she said.



11. As they hung the sheet on the fence again, Thomas puffed into view. Ben and Tessa waved to him. "Peep! Peep!" whistled Thomas. Then he saw the message on the sheet had been changed to 'Emergency! Stop!' Thomas was shocked. His driver pulled up sharply and soon they learned what had happened.

12. "The bridge is around the next bend. I'd never have stopped in time!" gasped Thomas. Help was sent for and the line was cleared. The Fat Controller came to thank Ben and Tessa. Next day, when Thomas puffed past as usual, he was relieved to see that the children's message was back to normal.

THE END!

In our next issue: Shrinking!

Competition!

Our 1st prize winner will receive a single size Thomas Bed (2' 6" x 6' 3" mattress not supplied.) The cabin end is 48in. high. The Thomas Bed comes flat-packed. It is partly assembled and the remainder is simple to put together with full instructions and all fittings supplied.

Two second prize winners will receive a Thomas Bedhead (to fit standard 3' divan). The Bedhead comes to you in a single flat box with only the two brackets to attach. (All fittings supplied.)

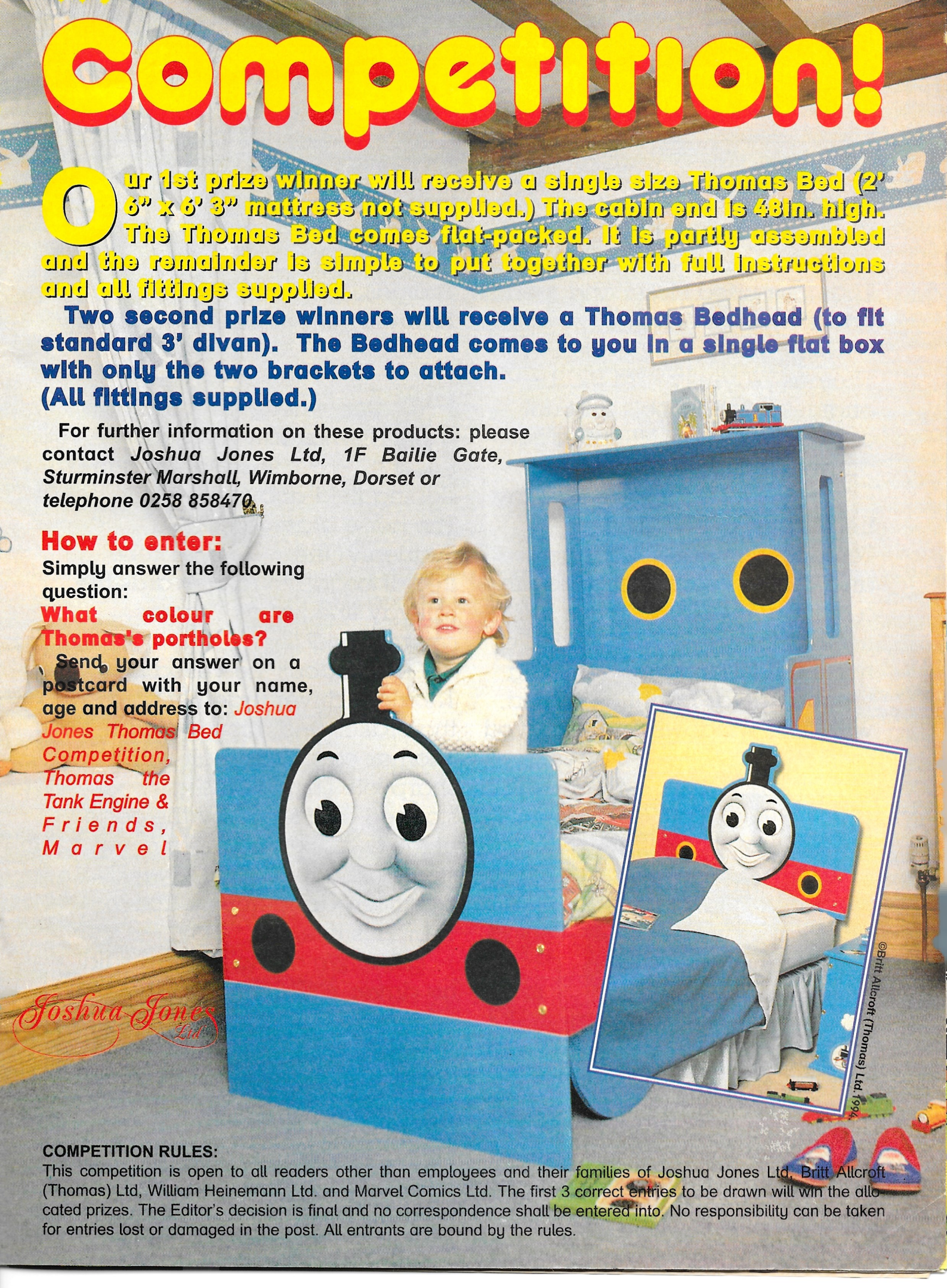
For further information on these products: please contact *Joshua Jones Ltd, 1F Bailie Gate, Sturminster Marshall, Wimborne, Dorset or telephone 0258 858470.*

How to enter:

Simply answer the following question:

What colour are Thomas's portholes?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, age and address to: *Joshua Jones Thomas Bed Competition, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel*



COMPETITION RULES:

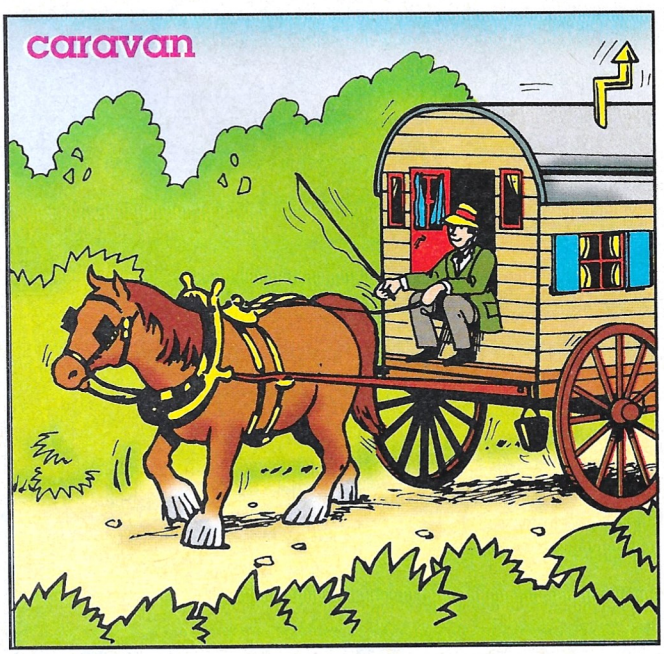
This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of Joshua Jones Ltd, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, William Heinemann Ltd. and Marvel Comics Ltd. The first 3 correct entries to be drawn will win the allocated prizes. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into. No responsibility can be taken for entries lost or damaged in the post. All entrants are bound by the rules.

TERENCE GETS A GRIP!

Thomas was pulling a goods train along his branch line when he spotted Terence the Tractor in a field, up ahead. Thomas puffed closer and then had to wait at a signal.

"Hello, slowcoach!" called Thomas playfully. "I'm glad engines have wheels and not caterpillar treads. I'd never get all my work done!"

"Wheels may be faster but my treads grip better!" replied Terence. The signal changed and Thomas continued through a cutting. In a lane above the track, Thomas's driver spotted a horse pulling a strange-looking wagon. It was brightly painted, with little windows and a curved roof.



"Well, I never! It's an old-fashioned gypsy caravan!" called Thomas's driver.

"Even that has wheels!" grinned Thomas. "Wait till I tell Terence!" Thomas hurried on to deliver his trucks.

Later, when he returned, Thomas saw the gypsy caravan was standing in a sloping field above the cutting. The horse grazed beside it. Suddenly, the caravan broke free. It began to roll towards the railway line just as Thomas approached!

"Oh! Look out!" he yelled. Thomas's driver urgently applied the brakes and, hissing steam, Thomas came to a halt with a sharp jolt. Luckily, the caravan stopped at a fence by the edge of the field. But the ground sloped and the caravan balanced dangerously above Thomas's line.

"Phew! We daren't go on!" said his driver.

"If that fence gives way, the caravan will crash on to the track!" gasped Thomas. A man ran to fetch the farmer who arrived with Terence.

"This is a job for a tractor!" the

farmer shouted to Thomas's driver.

Thomas held his breath as Terence chugged to the rescue. He carefully backed down the slope. When he was close enough to the caravan, a thick rope was tied between the two.

Then Terence pulled as hard as he could, using his treads to grip on the slippery ground. At last, he towed the caravan clear.

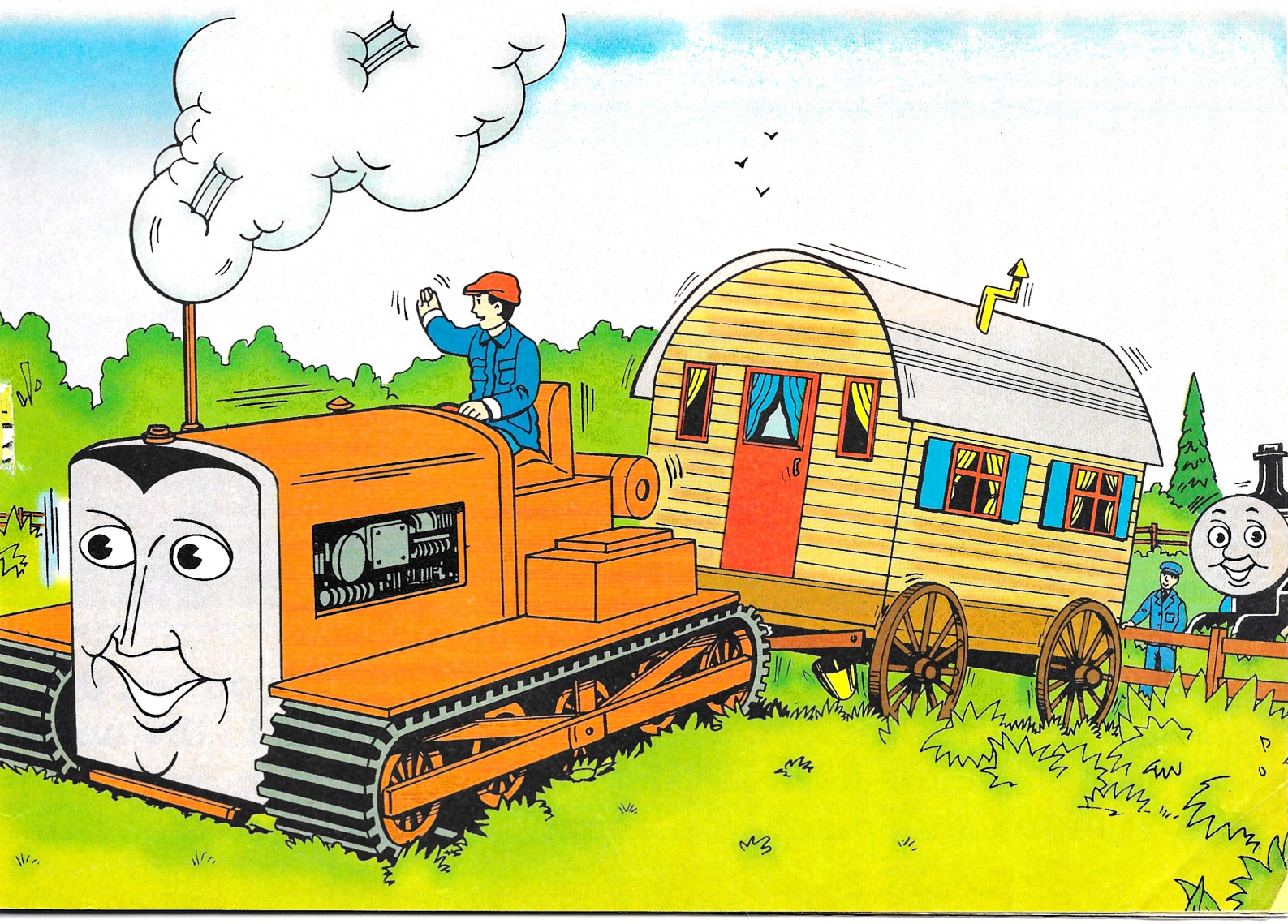
Everyone was very relieved, especially Thomas! The farmer explained that the caravan was being kept at his farm overnight on its way to a special country show.

"Terence will move it to another field," he said.

"Peep! Peep! Well done, Terence!" whistled Thomas. "Thanks to you, I can carry on safely down the line!"

"You mean, thanks to my caterpillar treads!" called Terence proudly.

THE END!



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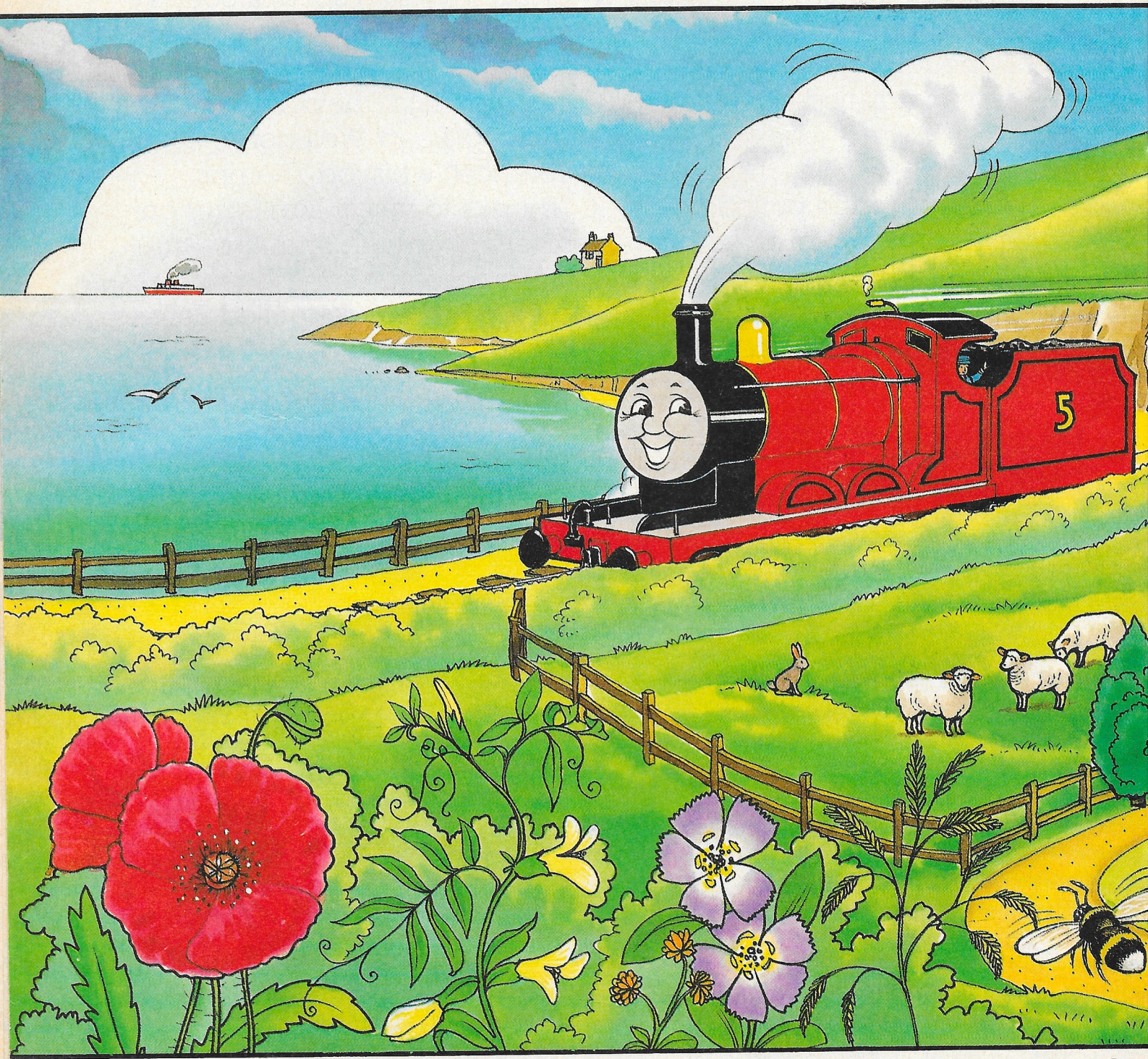


Which engine can you see?
What colour is his dome?
What number is he?
How many sheep can you count?

Can you see the f
Point to the horse
How many cocke
Point to the bumb

arm!

rmhouse?

ls can you see?
e-bee!

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Into the tunnel!

JAMES'S JAPES!

How did the elephant get out of the tree?
It used its trunk!
from Gina, aged 5.

What do hedgehogs eat?
Prickled Onions!
from Ben, aged 7

What do you give a sick lemon?
Lemonaid!
from Jane, aged 7.

What sort of cakes do boys hate?
Cakes of soap!
from James, aged 7.

Have you got a favourite joke or a funny story? Why not write to James at the address shown on the letters page!

MAKE SUMMER READING FUN

Your Newsagent will have given you a Lucky Number leaflet "Make Summer reading Fun!"
If one of the numbers below matches the number on the leaflet, YOU ARE A WINNER!
Ask your parent/guardian to help you. The leaflet shows how to claim prizes.

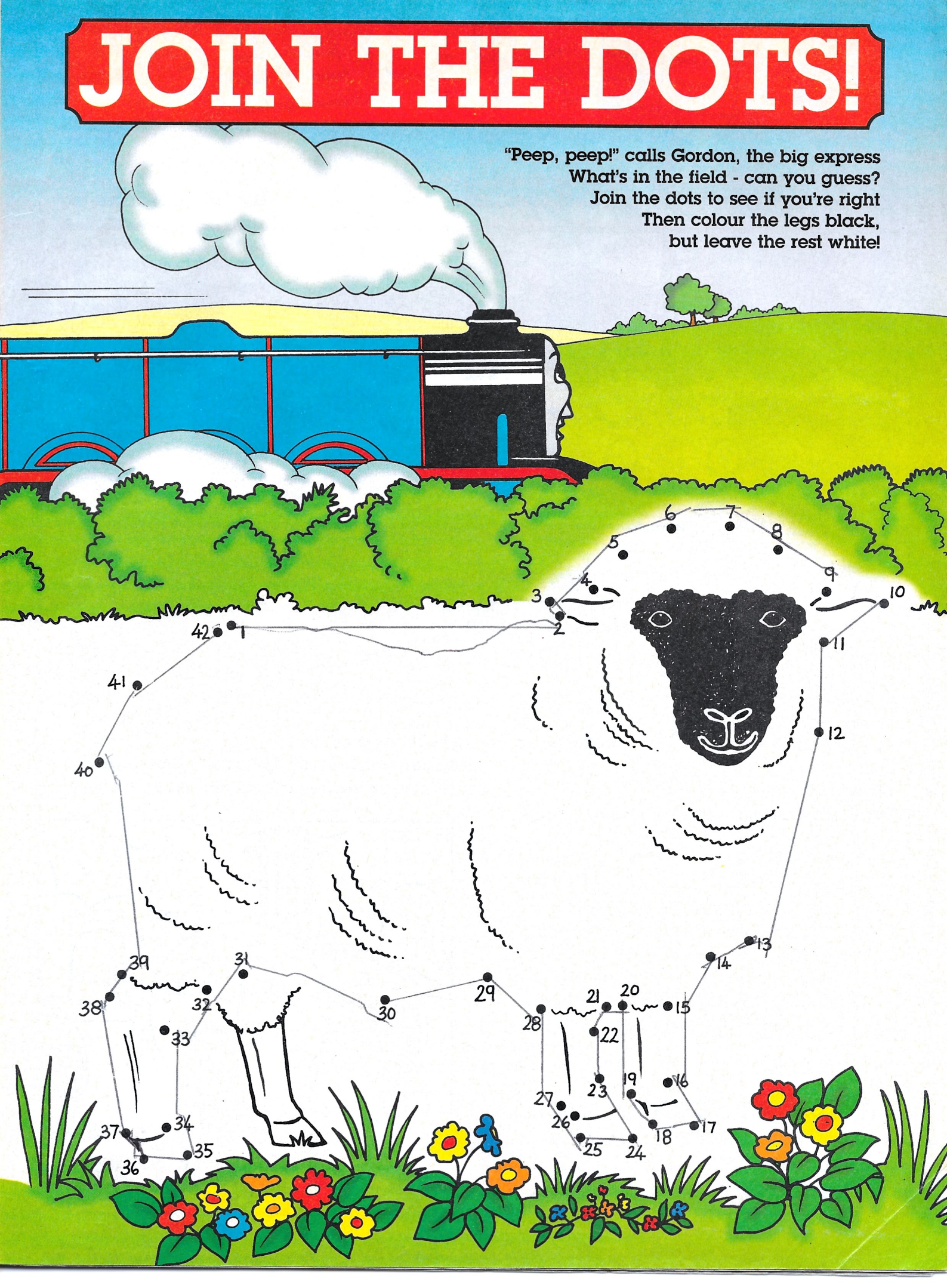
403006	416192	425506	438025	441119
456358	461874	479850	488511	492134
507354	518693	529720	534930	542711
556503	564261	572642	582006	598995
605656	611688	621614	636830	647265
652764	666276	674191	686025	690784
709537	716462	727672	731982	748414
751238	769568	773642	784638	799394
809689	814422	827306	835405	842907
855739	864299	878667	888125	897197

GOOD LUCK!

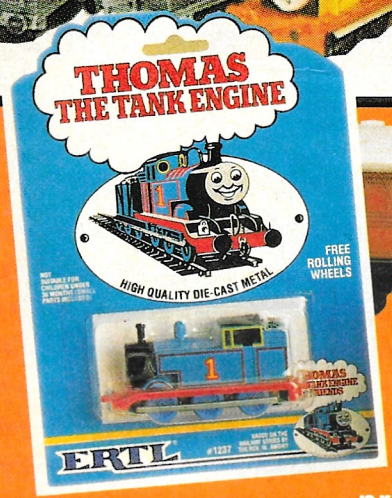
Please note: **This competition is for the Northern Region only.** Only areas round Bangor, Birkenhead, Blackpool, Bolton, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Stockport, Stoke -On-Trent and Sunderland are taking part, If you are unsure ask your Newsagent.

JOIN THE DOTS!

"Peep, peep!" calls Gordon, the big express
What's in the field - can you guess?
Join the dots to see if you're right
Then colour the legs black,
but leave the rest white!



PEEP! PEEP!
IT'S TIME TO WIN!



Our special 1st prize winner receives the complete Diecast Range of toys! 12 second prize winners receive diecast models of Thomas, Annie and Clarabel! 24 third prize winners receive an individual diecast model of Thomas the Tank Engine.

How to enter:

Colour the picture opposite and complete the entry form below. Then send this page along with part 1 (which featured your Thomas Token No.1) to Thomas/ERTL Summer Diecast Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St., London WC2R 3DX.

Closing date: 12th August 1994.

Rules: This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of ERTL (UK) Ltd., and Marvel Comics Ltd. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

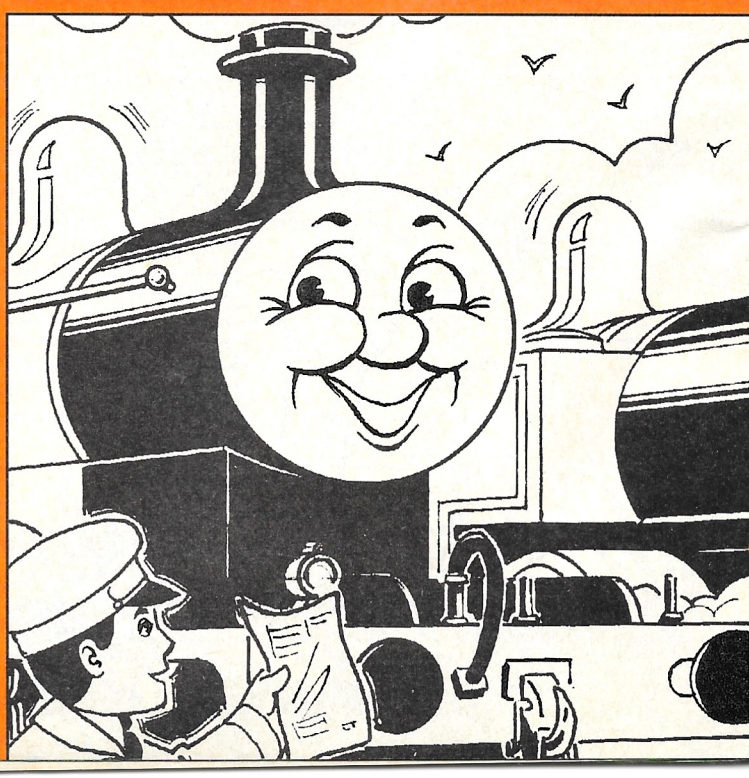
Name.....James Clarke..... **Age**.....

Address.....

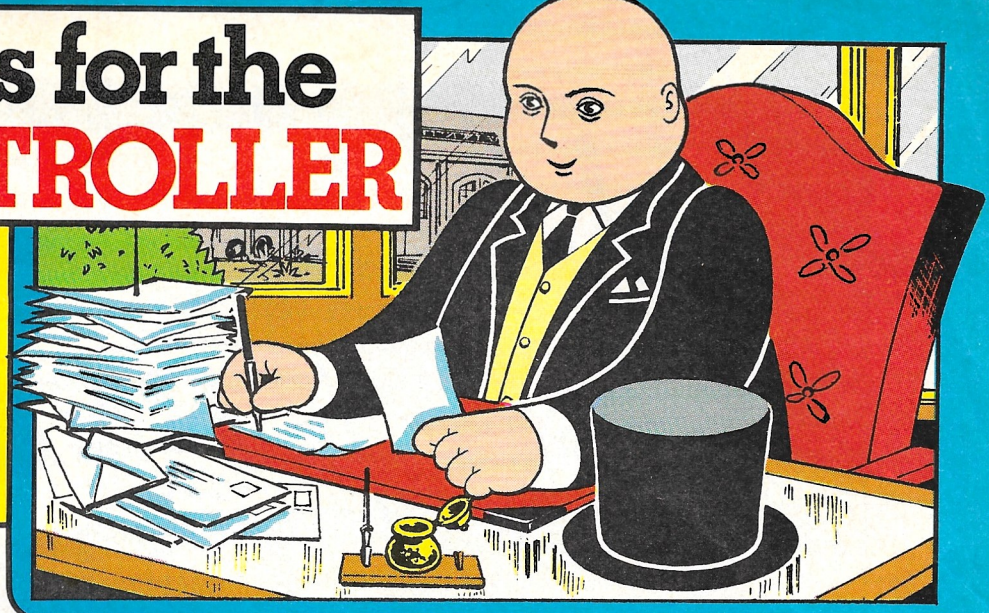
.....

.....

..... **Post Code**.....



Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

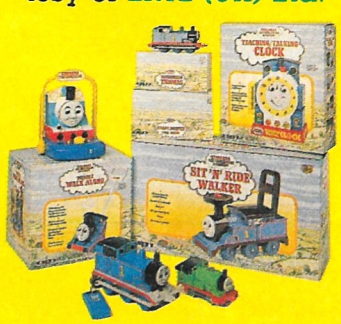
STAR LETTER

Dear Fat Controller,
I'm staying with Grandad and Grandma while Mummy is in hospital. We went to the great central line and had a ride on James. I would like to know who is the longest engine and if you often travel on your engines?

Love from **Matthew**, aged 3.

The 'longest engine' on my railway is Gordon the Big Express Engine. He is only slightly longer than Henry, though. I only really travel on the most senior engines, and I always choose Thomas to take me to extra special events!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*



OLIVER'S WORKPLACE!

Dear Fat Controller,
Could you tell me where Oliver works on your railway and what jobs he would do?

Love from Ashley **Wade**, aged 3.

Oliver works very hard on Duck's coastal branch line. He often pulls trucks and passengers and he works with his break van which is called 'Toad'.

SLEEPY ENGINES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I know that Thomas and the other engines sleep in engine sheds! But could you tell me where Bertie the Bus and Harold the Helicopter sleep?

Love from **Stephen**, aged 3.

Yes! Many of my engines sleep at the Tidmouth Engine sheds. But, Thomas's good friend, Bertie the Bus, sleeps at a bus station near Ffarquhar which is situated at the other end of Thomas's branch line. Harold the Helicopter rests near Dryaw station which is the station which serves his airfield.

BIRTHDAYS!

Special greetings to... Jonathan Paul Halcrow, Mark Evans, Ellis Parry, Connor Bedwell, Jodie Hendley, Paris Amber, Matthew Stark, Simon Carl Richards, Benjamin Rolfe, Christopher John, Neil Edward Bottle, John Patterson, Alexander Crane, Oliver Kew and Sean Keyward.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a post-card at least **nine weeks** in advance.

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

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to Thomas's very own magazine!

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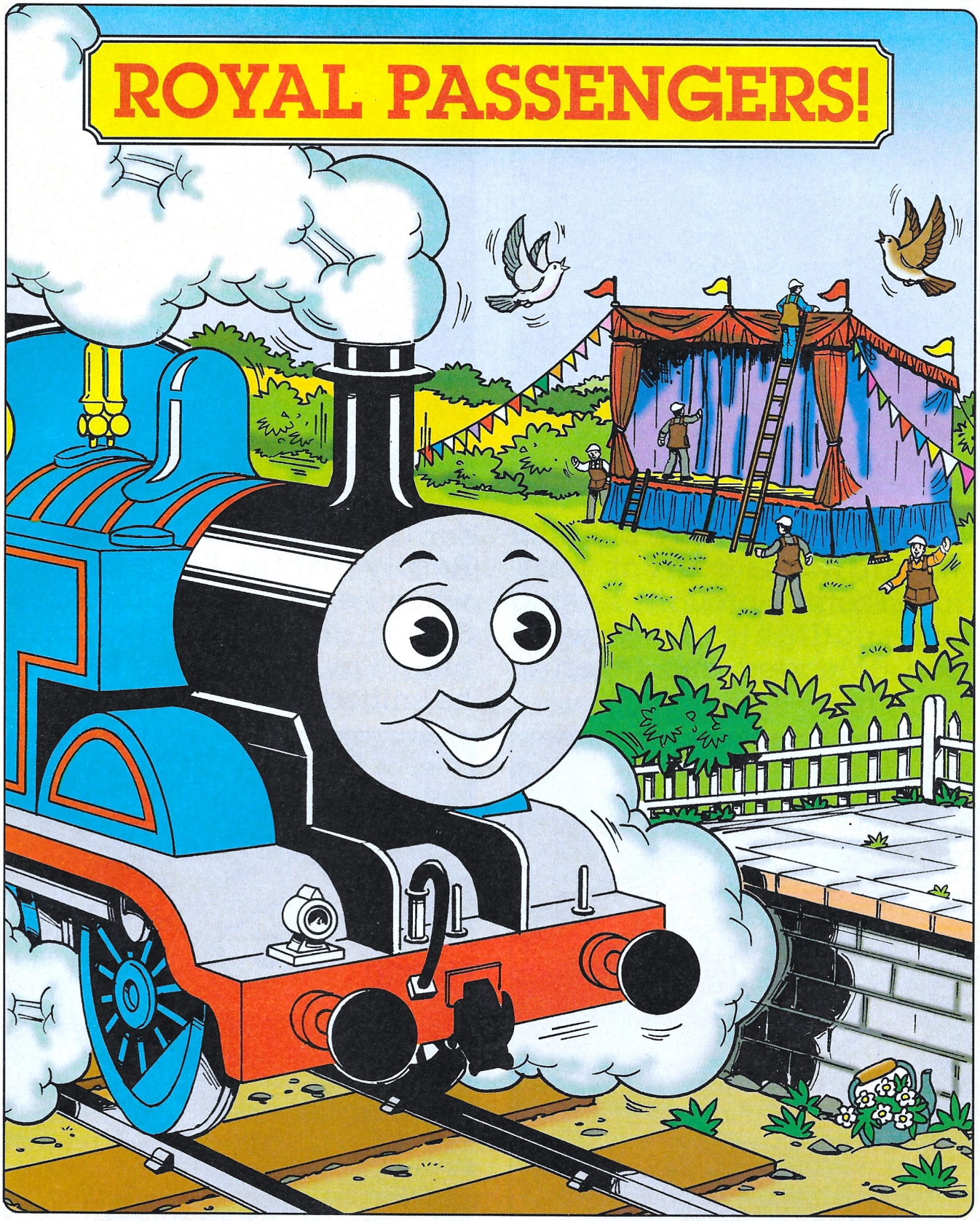
Please send a FREE Buzzbook ☐ 17H
6 months for £10.00 (£18.00 overseas) ☐ 18M (Tick appropriate box)

Child's name JOANNE CLARKE **Address**.....
.....
.....**Postcode**.....
Date of birth.....
I enclose a cheque/postal order for £..... made payable to **Marvel Comics Ltd.**
Please charge £..... to my Visa / Mastercard

Card number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date.....

Cardholder's signature.....
Parent's/donor's name **Mr/Mrs/Ms** CLARKE.....
Address (if different from child's).....
..... **Postcode**.....
Please send to: **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 OAA.**

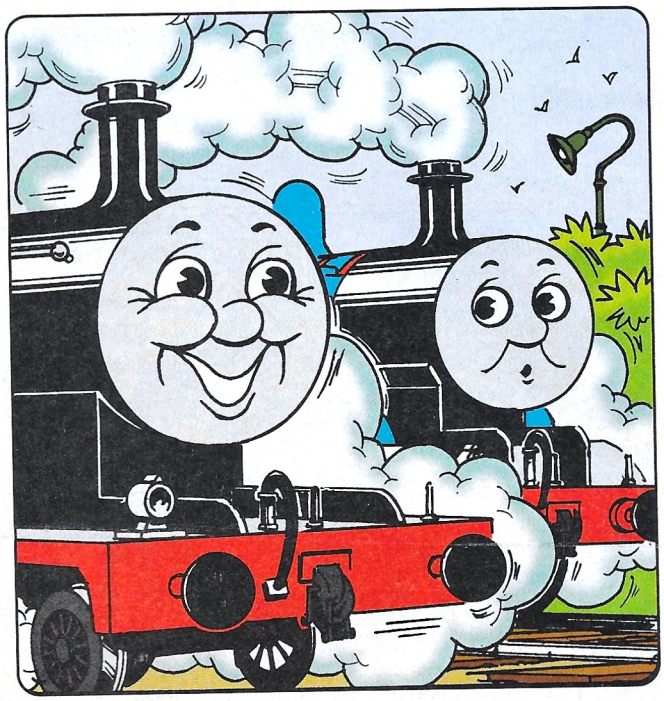
ROYAL PASSENGERS!



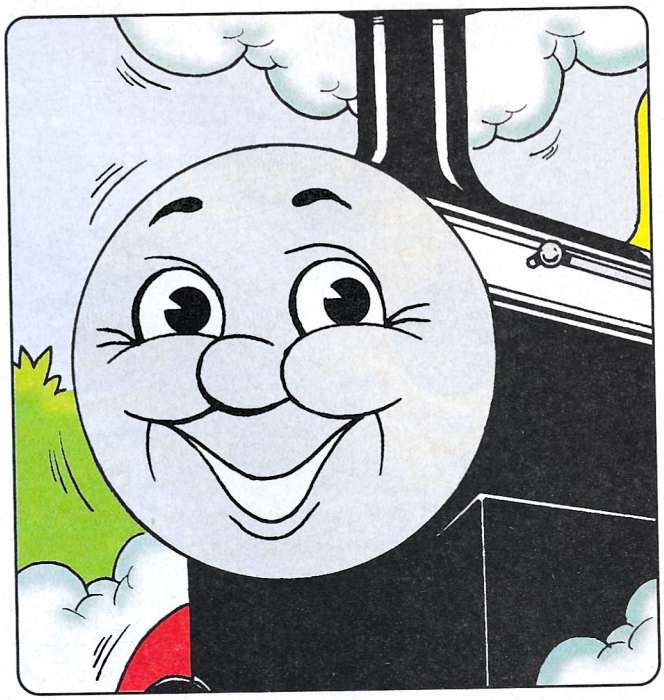
1. On the Island of Sodor, there were many different summer events for all the holidaymakers. Thomas was delivering materials to a special new tourist attraction.

2. "An open-air theatre," said Thomas's driver. "I've never heard of such a thing before!" replied Thomas. He pulled into a station by a park where men worked busily.

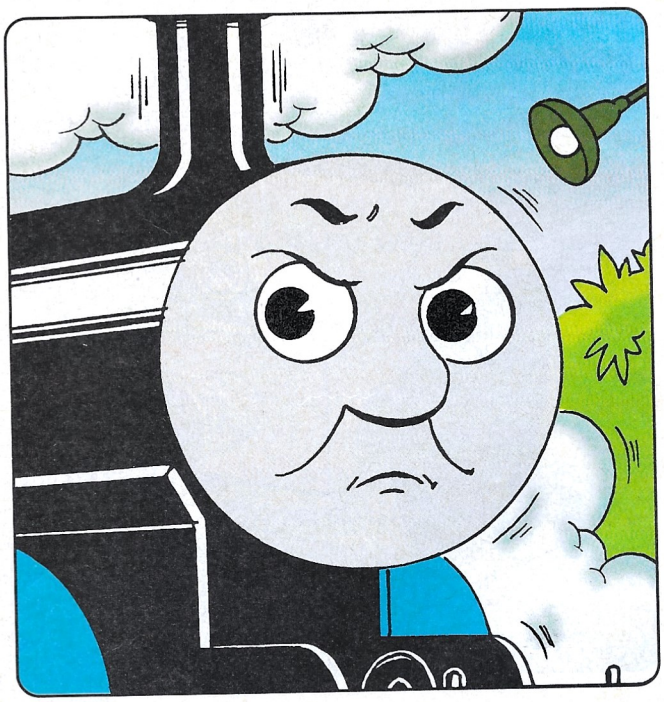
3. They had already built the stage and its canvas roof. Now Thomas brought seating and spotlights. They were soon unloaded and taken to the park.



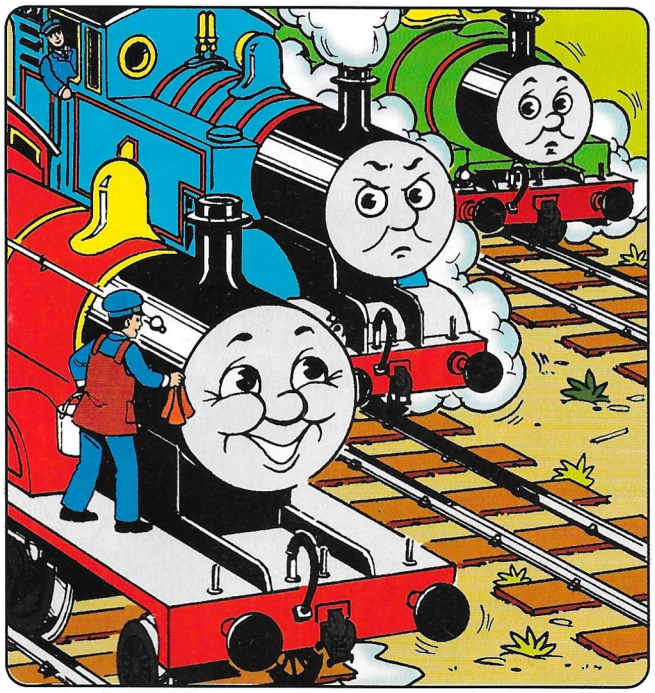
4. Thomas felt he was a Really Useful Engine. But, when he returned to the Main Station, James puffed towards him. "I'm to carry the Mayor!" he sniffed.



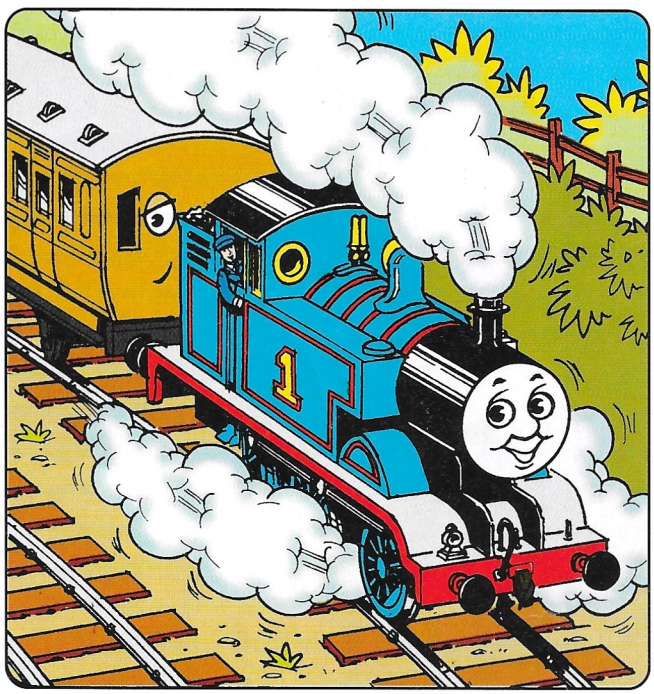
5. "He's going to see the first performance at the open-air theatre tomorrow," James explained. "I'm the perfect engine to take such important passengers!"



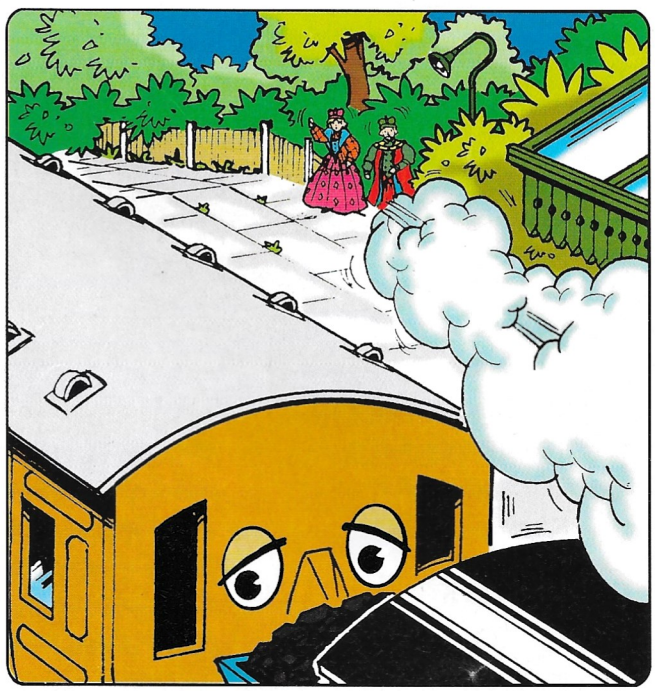
6. "Don't tell me," huffed Thomas, "you're so smart with your red paintwork!" "The Fat Controller knows I'm the best engine for the job!" snorted James.



7. After he was washed and polished, James boasted all the more to Thomas and the other engines. "Pah! He's getting too big for his buffers!" they agreed.

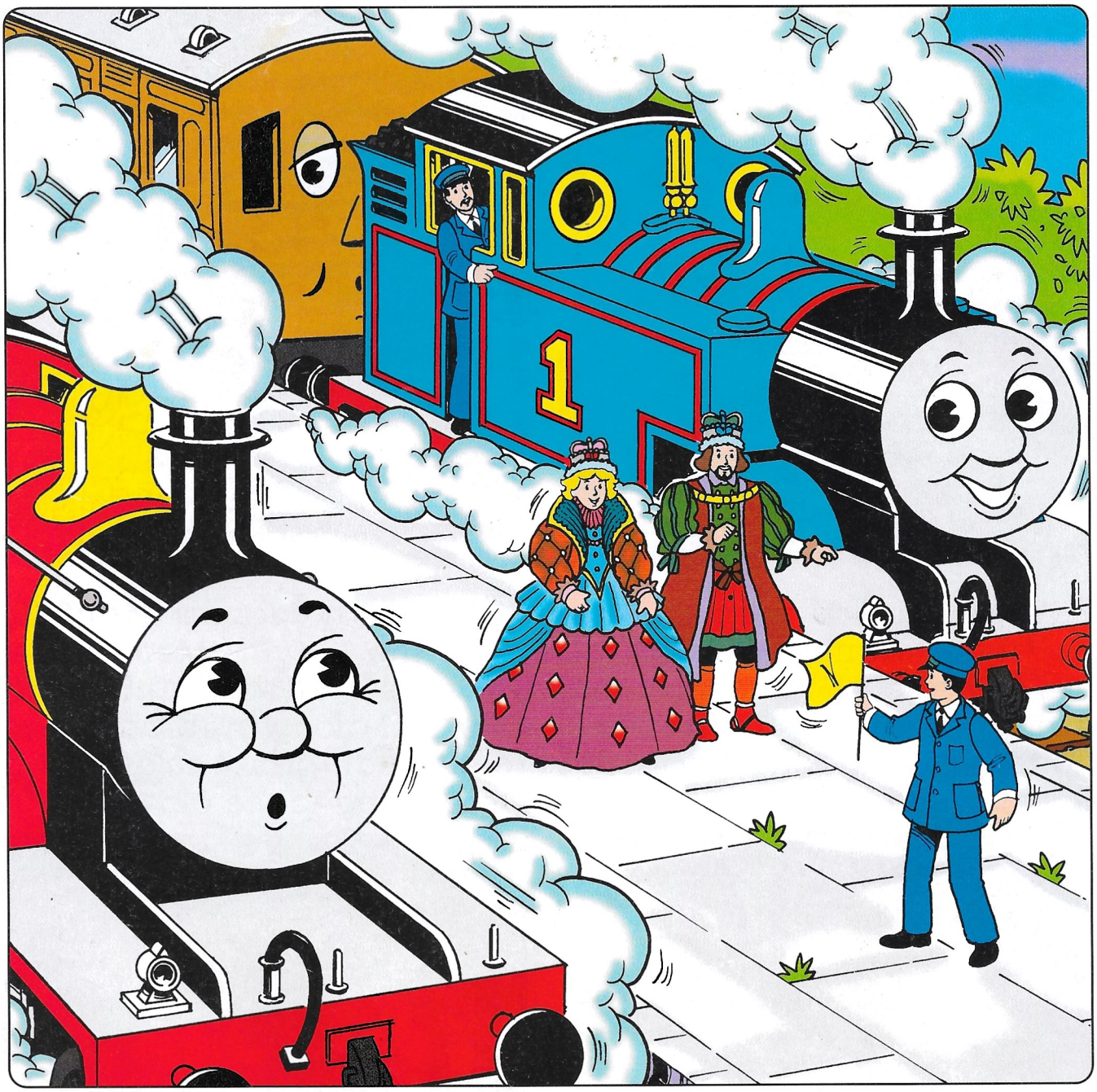


8. Next day, James set off to meet the Mayor. Meanwhile, Thomas pulled Annie and Clarabel along his branch line to collect passengers who were going to the play.



9. Just as he was about to leave a station, Thomas suddenly heard shouting and two people hurried on to the platform. "Please wait for us!" they called.

10. Thomas could hardly believe his eyes. "Our car broke down and we must get to the theatre on time!" a man breathlessly told the startled stationmaster.



11. "We're appearing in a play and have put on our costumes already as we are late!" said a lady. The couple were dressed as a king and queen. "James is in for a surprise!" smiled Thomas. Meanwhile, James grandly delivered the Mayor to the station close to the open-air theatre. The Mayor was lead to his seat.

12. When Thomas arrived on the other line, James was still at the station. He stared in amazement as the king and queen climbed out of Annie to thank Thomas, before going to the open-air theatre. "Taking the Mayor is important, James," smiled Thomas. "But only a royal train, like mine, carries a king and queen!" **THE END!**

In our next issue: Daisy in trouble!